

Appl. No. 10/757,813
Atty. Docket No. 7294C
Amdt. dated October 12, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 12, 2006
Customer No. 27752

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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 19 and ending on page 8, line 3, with the following amended paragraph:

The backsheet 26 is generally that portion of the diaper 20 positioned adjacent the garment facing surface of the absorbent core 28 which prevents the exudates absorbed and contained therein from soiling articles which may contact the diaper 20, such as bedsheets and undergarments. In preferred embodiments, the backsheet 26 is impervious to liquids (e.g., urine) and comprises a thin plastic film such as a thermoplastic film having a thickness of about 0.012 mm (0.5 mils) to about 0.051 mm (2.0 mils). Suitable backsheet films include those manufactured by Tredegar Industries Inc. of Terre Haute, IN and sold under the trade name X15306, X10962 and X10964. Other suitable backsheet materials may include breathable materials which permit vapors to escape from the diaper 20 while still preventing exudates from passing through the backsheet 26. Exemplary breathable materials may include materials such as woven webs, nonwoven webs, composite materials such as film-coated nonwoven webs, and microporous films such as manufactured by Mitsui Toatsu Co., of Japan under the designation ESPOIR NO^{[[TM]]} and by Tredegar Corp. of Richmond, VA under the designation EXAIRE^{[[®]]}. Suitable breathable composite materials comprising polymer blends are available from Clopay Corporation, Cincinnati, OH under the name HYTREL^{[[TM]]} blend P18-3097. Such breathable composite materials are described in greater detail in PCT Application No. WO 95/16746, published on June 22, 1995 in the name of E. I. DuPont and copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/744,487, filed on November 6, 1996 in the name of Curro. Other breathable backsheets including nonwoven webs and apertured formed films are described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,571,096 issued to Dobrin et al. on November 5, 1996. Each of these references is hereby incorporated by reference herein.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 27, lines 22-34, with the following amended paragraph:

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An alternate embodiment of a storage element 152 includes a macro-particulate structure 170 comprising a multiplicity of discrete particles 172, nonlimiting examples of which are shown as Figures 5 and 6. The macro particles 172 preferably have a nominal size, preferably between about 1.0 mm in diameter (wherein diameter is the dimension on the longest axis) and about 25.4 mm in diameter, and more preferably between about 2 mm in diameter and about 16 mm in diameter. However, particles as small as 0.5 mm in diameter and smaller, and particles larger than about 25.4 mm in diameter are contemplated. Particles having a nominal size of about 1.0 mm in diameter or greater are those which are generally retained on the surface of a U.S. Standard No. 18 mesh sieve screen. Particles having a nominal size of less than about 25.4 mm in diameter are those which generally pass through a U.S. Standard 25.4 mm sieve screen. Particles having a nominal size of 16 mm in diameter or greater are those which are generally retained on the surface of a U.S. Standard No. 16 mm sieve screen. The nominal particle size is measured prior to incorporating the particles into a storage element 152 for testing or use. Particles having a nominal size of 8 mm in diameter or greater are those which are generally retained on the surface of a U.S. Standard 8 mm sieve screen.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 28, line 31, and ending at page 29, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

The macro-particulate structure 170 preferably includes a continuous interstitial void space 174 that is defined by the space between the particles 172. By varying the size and/or shape of the particles 172, the interstitial void space 174 can be controlled. The particles may be of any known shape, including spheres, oblate spheroids, rectangular and polygonal solids, and the like. Table III shows the void fractions of particles having particular alternative shapes and nominal sizes. Other suitable shapes and void fractions are described in Perry's Chemical Engineering Handbook, 6th ed., McGraw-Hill, 1984, at p. 18-20.

Packing Type	TABLE III	Void Fraction
	Nominal Size (mm) <u>in diameter</u>	
Berl saddles	6	0.60

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	13	0.62
	6	0.75
Intalox saddles	13	0.78
Pall rings	16	0.87-0.92
Raschig rings	6	0.62
	13	0.64
	19	0.72

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 38, line 19, and ending at page 39, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

Viscous fluid bodily waste analog, Analog A, is a fecal material analog made by mixing 10 grams of CARBOPOL[[®]] 941 available from the B.F. Goodrich Corporation of Brecksville, OH, or an equivalent acrylic polymer in 900 milliliters of distilled water. The CARBOPOL[[®]] 941 and distilled water are weighed and measured separately. A 3-bladed marine-type propeller having a 2 inch diameter paddle, (available from VWR Scientific Products Corp. of Cincinnati, Ohio, Catalog # BR4553-64, affixed to a 3/8" stirring shaft BR4553-52), is used to stir the distilled water. The propeller speed should be constant at 450 rpm during mixing. The mixer should form a vortex without splashing. The CARBOPOL[[®]] is slowly sieved into the water so that it is drawn into the vortex and mixed without forming white clumps, or "fish eyes". The mixture is stirred until all of the CARBOPOL[[®]] has been added, and then for a period of 2 minutes thereafter. The sides of the bowl containing the mixture should be scraped and the bowl should be rotated as needed to achieve a homogeneous mixture. (The mixture will likely be slightly cloudy with air bubbles). One hundred grams of a 1.0 N volumetric NaOH solution, available from J. T. Baker Co., Phillipsburg, NJ, is then slowly measured into the mixture and the mixture is stirred until homogeneous. The mixture should become thick and clear. The mixture should be stirred for 2 minutes after the addition of the alkali solution. The neutralized mixture should be allowed to equilibrate for at least 12 hours and should be used for the Acceptance Under Pressure test within 96 hours thereafter. Before the CARBOPOL[[®]] mixture is used, it should be stirred in the container at low speed (about 50 rpm) for about 1 minute to ensure the mixture is homogeneous.